

# JAPAN CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY NEWS

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## THREE INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL WORK CONFERENCES THIS MONTH

The Ninth International Conference of Social Work will be held in Tokyo from November 30 to December 6 with headquarters in the Sankei International Conference Building. The theme of the Conference is Mobilizing Resources for Social Needs: Social Needs and Resources for Meeting Them."

Two other international meetings will be held just prior to the Ninth International Conference of Social Work. They are the International Association of Schools of Social Work and the International Union for Child Welfare. The latter of these two is under the high patronage of the Japanese government with Mr. Hiroyuki Takata, present Director of the Children's Bureau of the Ministry of Education in charge. It will be in Tokyo from November 23 to 27. These meetings will be largely study conferences in nature with the Child Welfare Conference deliberating the theme "The Child in the Family" including substitute family care in institutions and foster homes.

The basic units of the International Conference on Social Work are the National Committees. At present there are 30 active national committees in countries running the gamut of the English alphabet







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from Australia to Yugoslavia. Provisional committees have been established in a number of other countries. Membership in the conference is expected to exceed 600 with many Japanese nationals and missionaries in attendance.

The main addresses of the International Conference will follow these topics: "What are the World's Social Needs?", "Human and Material Resources for Meeting Social Needs", "The Role of International Voluntary Effort in Mobilizing Resources to Meet Social Needs", and "The Role of Inter-governmental Activities (regional as well as international) in Mobilizing Resources to Meet Social Needs". During the third day of the Conference the delegates will hear "Country Reports" which will be a series of four papers describing, analyzing and evaluating national efforts at mobilizing resources to meet social needs in four countries in different parts of the world. There will be two from Asia, one from Europe, and one from Latin America.

There will be four Commission topics which will be considered by small groups in detail: 1) Co-relation of Economic and Social Development Policies, 2) Leadership for Social Policy, 3) Problems of Growth and Change in Population Structure, 4) Community Development as a Means of Mobilizing and Focusing Resources to Meet Needs in Countries in Process of Development. Besides the commission deliberations, there will be study groups on fifteen different aspects of the theme.

As features in the program there will be national exhibits, tours to social work agencies in the Tokyo area, selected film showings, and special meetings as the needs arise.

There are nine officers of the International Conference three of whom are from the U.S.A., one each from Canada, England, Greece, Brazil, India and the Netherlands.

In connection with the three major international organizations listed above the following organizations are planning meetings on Thursday, December 4th:

- Catholic International Union for Social Service
- Conference of Nongovernmental Organizations Interested in Migration
- International Conference of Catholic Charities
- International Federation of Social Workers
- International Social Service
- International Society for the Welfare of Cripples
- League of Red Cross Societies
- Nongovernmental Organizations Committee on UNICEF
- World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts







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### C.C. CHURCH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT REPORTS PROGRESS

The Rev. Jonathan Fujita, Executive Secretary of the Church School Department of the National Christian Council, reports that the department is mission-minded following the World Convention held here this summer. On Sunday in Christian Education Week, 114,205 yen was collected which will be sent to Okinawa for Christmas.

The Ninth Nationwide Church School Teachers' Convention will be held in Yokohama on May 4 and 5 of next year. The theme will be "Let Us Have His Vision" and the proposed site is the Ferris Girls School on the Bluff. Also proposed is a nationwide children's rally of church school students from which five children will be sent to the Philippines for the Summer for a Good Will Mission. Rev. Fujita is also planning to take the Japanese "paper theater" and puppet shows to Okinawa and Formosa for two months. He will be accompanied by two others as he makes this trip next June and July.

The outline, skeleton, purpose and content of the new curriculum has been produced and copies are available in English and Japanese. This new curriculum has been accepted by the United Church and also the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church. On December 11 and 12 a writer's workshop will be held at Hayama YWCA retreat after which a whole year's material will be written. The Literature Commission of the NCC will be printing the whole course beginning in 1960 but the 1959 course will be printed in the AVACO monthly magazine with accompanying suggestions for visual aids.

The financial aspect of the Church School Department is also encouraging. As a result of the drive for funds to support the World Convention on Christian Education which was held in Tokyo in August, 10,419,660. was collected from the churches as of November 7. The supporting association (business organizations, etc.) donated 5,086,880. making a total collected here in Japan of ¥35,506,540. With all the bills paid there is a balance of ¥170,000. \$15,000 was received from the World Friendship Book Fund. To handle the use of these funds a committee has been appointed under the co-chairmanship of Dr. Darley Downs and Mr. Matsuno.

By the end of this coming March, Rev. Fujita predicts, there will be no more deficit hanging over the Church School Department and by April, 1959 it will be self-supporting.







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### STANLEY JONES AND BILLY GRAHAM CAMPAIGNS HERE NEXT YEAR

As a part of the Centenary Movement of the National Christian Council two outstanding evangelists will campaign in Japan during the coming year. Dr. Stanley Jones and Dr. Billy Graham, noted American evangelists, have been invited and have agreed to take part in the evangelical thrust to begin the second one hundred years of the Protestant movement.

The plans for the Stanley Jones campaign are fairly complete whereas details of the Billy Graham campaign are not yet worked out except that he and his team will probably be here in May and or June.

Dr. Jones is coming for this the fifth major campaign since the end of the Pacific war. Accompanying him will be Dr. Akhbar Abdul Haqq, Indian scholar who received his Ph. D. in the States and has been head of the Henry Martyn School of Islamics in India but is now released to do evangelistic work. He has been cooperating with Dr. Billy Graham in evangelism. Also with Dr. Jones will be Dr. Thomas Carruth, Secretary of the Department of Prayer Life in the Methodist Church, U.S.A., and Mrs. Mary Webster, lay woman evangelist from the States.

They will divide Japan into six general areas for the purpose of setting up Ashrams for the deepening of the faith and church life of lay workers and pastors. These six Ashrams will be held at 1) Amagasaki on the Izu Peninsula from February 11-13 for the Tokyo area; 2) at Kobe for the Kansai area from Feb. 17-19; 3) the Kyushu meeting will be in Fukuoka during the first part of March; 4) the Shikoku meeting will be in Takamatsu in the middle of March; 5) the Tohoku district Ashram will be in Sendai at the beginning of April; 6) the Hokkaido meeting will be in Sapporo during the middle of April. Besides the Ashrams the evangelistic campaign in each area is in the hands of the local council of churches. Details are not available at the present time.

The biggest and final of five great campaigns of E. Stanley Jones for Christ in the Islands of Japan will be from February 4<sup>th</sup> until April 22.

The National Christian Council and the Evangelical Association are co-sponsoring the effort of Dr. Billy Graham in Japan during the coming year. The Rev. A. Kurumada, Moderator of the Evangelical Association, and the Rev. Michio Kozaki, President of the National Christian Council, head the two leading organizations of Christians in this country. These two organizations comprise over 80% of Japan's Protestants.

Leaders of the National Christian Council report that more than six months have been spent in attempting to get 100% of the Protestants in Japan to support this call to Dr. Graham to come to Japan. Though not entirely successful, they are proud of the united effort of the NCC and the Evangelical Association in the coming meetings. The NCC has constituent bodies with 2,201 churches and 235,000 members while







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The Evangelical Association has 9 constituent bodies, 400 churches and 5,000 members.

The Rev. Edwin B. Dozier, Japan-born Southern Baptist missionary, the temporary chairman of the Protestant Centenary Billy Graham Evangelism Committee.

#### ANNUAL ALL LUTHERAN FREE CONFERENCE MEETS IN KYUSHU

Lutheran missionaries in Japan annually meet as the "All Lutheran Free Conference". The 1958 meeting was held November 4-6 at Mount Aso, Kyushu with over 60 in attendance.

"An Holy People Unto the Lord--Our Christian Challenge to the New Religions", was the conference theme. Worship services and the Bible study on Deuteronomy chapter 7 concentrated on the presentation of the first half of the theme. Panel discussions on "The New Religions in Japan", "Empowering the Christian Layman for the Witness Life" and "Lutheran Beginnings in Japan" called attention to the challenge and the Christian answer to the challenge. The final panel discussion on "Lutheran Beginnings" called particular attention to work done in the Kyushu area by early missionaries, and the accomplishments of 65 years of work stand as an answer to the challenge of the New Religions as well as the Old Religions in Japan.

The Rev. Anders Hoaas of Kove, Norwegian missionary, was elected chairman of the conference for the coming year. The Rev. Paul Heerboth of Yokohama, Missouri Synod-U.S.A. missionary, has served as chairman during the past year.

Thursday, the final day of the meetings, was devoted to a field trip to churches, the two Lutheran High Schools in Kumamoto and to the Colony of Mercy and its affiliated social work institutions in the Kumamoto area.

The All Lutheran Free Conference is not established for the purpose of drawing up pronouncements. Smaller groups selected from cooperating Lutheran Missions and the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church are carrying on unity discussions which will lead to the formation of one Lutheran Church in Japan. The groups already work together in the Lutheran Literature Society.

Immediately following the Free Conference about half the group remained in Kumamoto for theological discussions. Papers were presented on the subjects: "The Gifts of the Spirit", "Eschatology from the Lutheran Standpoint" and "Luther and Calvin--A Comparative study based on their commentaries of the Epistle of Paul to the Galatians".



